GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:597
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2000
DOCUMENT ON NETAJI
PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the government are aware of any recently published document that relates to the possibility of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose being alive;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the government have ordered an inquiry to look into the authenticity of the document; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA)

(a) & (b) Government have seen the press report that appeared in the `Hindustan Times` of October 29, 2000 captioned `Soviet papers add to Bose mystery.`

(c) & (d) While no specific inquiry has been ordered in the context of the press report, attempts have been made at the official level to find out from the Russian Government whether there were documents pertaining to Netaji available with them. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation conveyed on September 27, 1995 that `as a result of the investigations carried out at the Central Archival Collection of the Federal Security Service of Russia and the Russian Centre for Retention and Perusal of documents on Modern History, no information has come to light on the stay of Subhash Chandra Bose on the territory of the former USSR in 1945 and in subsequent years.` The State Archive Service of the Russian Federation informed on August 4, 1997 that `the Centre for Preservation of Historical Documental Collection does not have any information on Subhash Chandra Bose.` This matter is likely to receive further attention in the course of the ongoing hearings of the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry into the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose appointed by Government of India under Section 3 of the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952.